



Notice of Allow. Date: July 26, 2004
Issue Fee Due Date: October 26, 2004
Confirmation No.: 3286

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Marc Bolduc
Serial No.: 09/733,582
Filed: December 7, 2000
Title: EDITING VIDEO DATA

Examiner: Jamie J. Vent
Group Art Unit: 2616
Docket: G&C 30566.133-US-01

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV 530999289US

Date of Deposit: August 18, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to: Mail Stop ISSUE FEE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By:

Isabell Ogata
Name: Isabell Ogata

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Dear Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal sheet, in duplicate, containing a Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.10.
- ☒ Communication Regarding Priority Document with copies of December 7, 2000 return postcard, and transmittal sheet.
- ☒ COPY of December 7, 2000 filing of Certified copy of a UNITED KINGDOM application, Serial No. 0007698.4, filed March 31, 2000, the right of priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119.
- ☒ Return postcard.

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

Please charge all fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0494 of Gates & Cooper LLP. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

Customer Number 22462

GATES & COOPER LLP

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6701 Center Drive West, Suite 1050
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(310) 641-8797

By:

George H. Gates
Name: George H. Gates
Reg. No.: 33,500
GHG/io

(PTO TRANSMITTAL - GENERAL)



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By:

Isabell Ogata

Name: Isabell Ogata

COMMUNICATION REGARDING PRIORITY DOCUMENT

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Notice of Allowability of July 26, 2004 (PTOL-37), an acknowledgement was not made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119.

On December 7, 2000, a new utility patent application was filed via Express Mail mailing label number EL540750403US, which included a **Certified copy of a Foreign application, Serial No. 0007698.4, filed March 31, 2000, the right of priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119.** Copies of the return postcard and transmittal sheet are enclosed.

A second copy of the Certified Priority Document is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the Priority Document be entered into the file of the above-identified patent application, and an acknowledgement as to receipt thereof mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

The Issue Fee has not yet been paid.

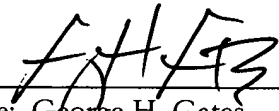
Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

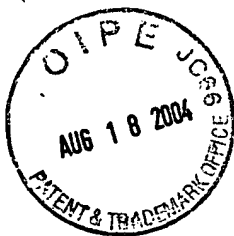
GATES & COOPER LLP
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

Howard Hughes Center
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Date: August 18, 2004

By: 
Name: George H. Gates
Reg. No.: 33,500

GHG/io



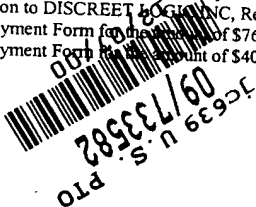
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Receipt is hereby acknowledged for the following in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

Applicant: MARC BOLDUC
Title: EDITING VIDEO DATA
Docket: 30566.133-US-01
Express Mail No.: EL540750403US
Date of Deposit: December 7, 2000

- ☒ Transmittal sheet, in duplicate, containing Certificate Of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10.
- ☒ Utility Patent Application: Spec. 15 pgs; 23 claims; Abstract 1 pg(s).
- ☒ 10 sheets of Drawings
- ☒ Certified copy of a Foreign application, Serial No. 0007698.4, filed March 31, 2000, the right of priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119
- ☒ A signed Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney
- ☒ Assignment of the invention to DISCREET LOGIC INC, Recordation Form Cover Sheet
- ☒ PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form for the amount of \$764.00 to cover the Filing Fee
- ☒ PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form for the amount of \$40.00 to cover the Assignment Recordation Fee.
- ☒ Return postcard

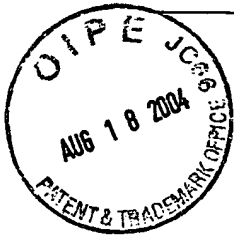
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s): MARC BOLDUC
 Docket: 30566.133-US-01
 Title: EDITING VIDEO DATA



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EL540750403US

Date of Deposit: December 7, 2000

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: Adriane M. Baird
 Name: Adriane M. Baird

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
 Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal sheet, in duplicate, containing Certificate Of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10.
- ☒ Utility Patent Application: Spec. 15 pgs; 23 claims; Abstract 1 pg(s).
 The fee has been calculated as shown below in the "Claims as Filed" table.
- ☒ 10 sheets of Drawings
- ☒ Certified copy of a Foreign application, Serial No. 0007698.4, filed March 31, 2000, the right of priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119
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- ☒ Return postcard

CLAIMS AS FILED

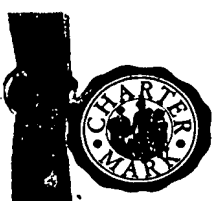
Number of Claims Filed	In Excess of:	Number Extra	Rate	Fee
Basic Filing Fee				\$710.00
Total Claims				
23	20	3	x \$18.00 =	\$54.00
Independent Claims				
3	3	0	x \$80.00 =	\$0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM FEE				\$0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE				\$764.00

Please charge all fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0494. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Customer Number 22462

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the undersigned, being an officer duly authorised in accordance with Section 74(1) and (4) of the Deregulation & Contracting Out Act 1994, to sign and issue certificates on behalf of the Comptroller-General, hereby certify that annexed hereto is a true copy of the documents as originally filed in connection with the patent application identified therein.

In accordance with the Patents (Companies Re-registration) Rules 1982, if a company named on a certificate and any accompanying documents has re-registered under the Companies Act 1985 with the same name as that with which it was registered immediately before re-registration save for the substitution as, or inclusion as, the last part of the name of the words "public limited company" or their equivalents in Welsh, references to the name of the company on the certificate and any accompanying documents shall be treated as references to the name in which it is so re-registered.

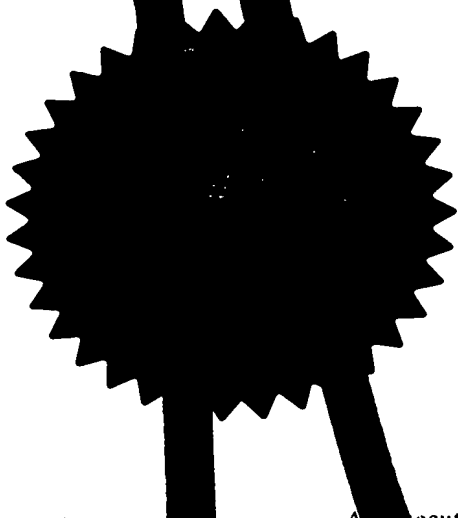
In accordance with the rules, the words "public limited company" may be replaced by p.l.c., p.l.c. or PLC.

Re-registration under the Companies Act does not constitute a new legal entity but merely subjects the company to certain additional company law rules.

Signed

Dated

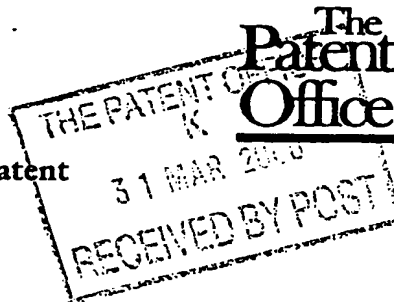
31 MAY 2000



Patents Form 1/77

Patents Act 1977

Request for grant of a patent



31MAR00 ES257611 C59321
P01/7700 0.00-0.07692.4

1/77

The Patent Office

Cardiff Road
Newport
Gwent NP9 1RH

1. Your reference

000/698.4

DL-P537

2. Patent application number

31 MAR 2000

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (*underline all surnames*)

DISCREET LOGIC INC
10 Duke Street
Montreal
Quebec
Canada H3C 2L7

Patents ADP number (*if you know it*)

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

Quebec, Canada

4. Title of the invention

Editing Video Data

5. Name of your agent

ATKINSON BURRINGTON

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent

The Technology Park
Shirland Lane
Sheffield S9 3PA
GB

Telephone No:

0114 242 4581

Patents ADP number

0777204001 7807043001

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (*if you know it*) the or each application number

Country

Priority application number
(*if you know it*)

Date of filing
(*day/month/year*)

N/A

N/A

N/A

7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application

Number of earlier application

Date of filing
(*day/month/year*)

N/A

N/A

8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request?

Yes

Patents Form 1/77

9. Enter the number of sheets for any of the following items you are filing with this form. Do not count copies of the same document

Continuation sheets of this form

Description	15
Claim(s)	06
Abstract	01
Drawings	10

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents	N/A
Translations of priority documents	N/A
Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (<i>Patents Form 7/77</i>)	None
Request for preliminary examination and search (<i>Patents Form 9/77</i>)	None
Request for substantive examination (<i>Patents Form 10/77</i>)	None
Any other documents (<i>Please specify</i>)	

11. I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature

Date Thursday, 30 March 2000

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

RALPH ATKINSON CPA
0114 242 4581

Editing Video Data

Background of the Invention

1. Field of the Invention

5 The present invention relates to editing original video data of a first format, wherein said first format has inserted jitter frames and is displayable at a first frame rate.

2. Description of the Related Art

10 It is well known that commercial video systems operate at thirty frames per second, slightly less than thirty frames per second (NTSC drop frame) or twenty-five frames per second; rates determined primarily by the frequency of AC mains supplies. It is also well known that high quality cinematographic film is displayed at twenty-four frames per second, therefore there is an
15 inherent difficulty in terms of converting film images into video data.

 A process of 2:3 insertion for converting from twenty-four frames per second to thirty frames per second is well known and results in five output frames being generated from four input frames on a repeating cycle. Input frames making up the cycle are usually referred to as A, B, C and D frames
20 from which five output frames are generated. A further complication with commercial video systems is that each frame is generated from two interlaced fields therefore it is more correct to think in terms of generating ten output fields from four input frames.

 The known 3:2 insertion process generates three output frames that
25 are derived from a whole input frame. However, in addition to this, two frames are constructed in which interlaced fields are derived from different input frames such that when viewed as a still frame, there is a tendency for the

image to jitter, particularly if movement has occurred between the two source frames.

After 3:2 inserted video material has been produced, it may be necessary to perform post production activities resulting in material being modified. In order to do this, the inserted video is reconverted back into material at twenty-four frames per second whereafter (theoretically) edits could occur at any frame boundary. However, given that material must be written back to an inserted video stream, known systems only allow edits at the boundaries between a D Frame and an A Frame, that is to say, at the start of the insertion cycle. Consequently, material that has been processed in this way introduces a further limitation into the editing process which may result in artistic compromises being made or may result in the introduction of artefacts.

Brief Summary of the Invention

According to an aspect of the present invention there is provided apparatus for editing original video data of a first format, wherein said first format has inserted jitter frames and is displayed at a first frame rate, comprising reading means configured to read original video data in said first format from a video storage device; converting means for converting said video data read by said reading means into converted video data having a second format with no jitter frames, displayed at a second display rate; relating means configured to relate timecode of said converted video data to timecode of said original data so as to identify frame types for said converted video data; modifying means configured to modify portion of said converted video data to produce modified video data in said second format; generating means configured to generate new video data in said first format

by processing said modified video data; and edit processing means configured to replace an edit portion of stored original data with said new data by defining an edit range with reference to said new data, selecting an edit field with reference to said frame types so as to initiate said edit on a data boundary, write said new data to said storage device, and select an edit field again for completing said process of writing said new data with reference to said frame type data so as to complete the edit on a data boundary.

Brief Description of the Several Views of the Drawings

Figure 1 shows a system for recording cinematographic film onto digital video tape;

Figure 2 illustrates the format conversion process identified in *Figure 1*;

Figure 3 shows a video editing facility;

Figure 4 shows a computer controlled editing station of the type identified in *Figure 3*;

Figure 5 illustrates operations performed by the system shown in *Figures 3* and *4*;

Figure 6 illustrates an example of an editing operation;

Figure 7 details an overwriting operation identified in *Figure 5*;

Figure 8 details procedures for determining a field edit type, identified in *Figure 7*;

Figure 9 illustrates procedures for determining a field edit type at the end of an edit procedure;

Figure 10 illustrates instructions supplied over a serial interface to a video tape recorder.

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

A system for recording cinematographic film onto digital video tape is illustrated in *Figure 1*. Cinematographic film stock **101**, configured to be displayed at a rate of twenty-four frames per second is received by a film scanner **102**, configured to generate high definition video signals at a off-line speed less than the real-time display rate.

Film scanner **102** includes a format conversion process **103** arranged to convert image signals scanned at 23.98 frames per second (notionally twenty-four frames per second) into a digital video signal with frames at 29.97 frames per second (notionally thirty frames per second). The thirty frame per second digital video signal is supplied to a digital video tape recorder **104** and both the film scanner **102** and the digital video tape recorder **104** are controlled by a control computer **105** over RS422 serial interfaces **106** and **107**.

Format conversion process **103** is illustrated in *Figure 2*. Film scanner **102** produces a progression of frames derived from images captured on film **101**. These are effectively a progression of still frames captured at a particular instant in time and therefore differ from a video signal generated by a video camera which produces a frame by scanning the image as two interlaced rasters such that, in effect, each pixel of data represents a portion of the image captured at a unique point in time. Progressive frames produced by the film scanner are initially generated at twenty-four frames per second and as such are usually identified as 24P frames, referenced **201** to **209**. In order to perform a conversion process, a first frame **201** is identified as a type A frame, with the next frame **202** being identified as a type B frame, the next frame **203** being identified as a type C

frame while frame 204 is identified as a type D frame. This sequence A B C D then repeats such that frame 205 is identified as a type A, frame 206 is identified as a type B, frame 207 is identified as a type C, frame 208 is identified as a type D and frame 209 is identified as a type A etc.

5 The progressive frames are generated at a rate of twenty-four frames per second therefore the cycle of four frames repeats six times each second. Digital video tape recorder 104 requires digital video signals at a rate of thirty frames per second therefore during the repetition period it is necessary to generate five video frames made up of a total of ten video
10 fields. The fields are interlaced and thereby occupy odd or even lines respectively, the odd line field being referred to as a first field type and the even line field being referred to as a second field type. In this example, progressive frames 201 to 204 provide source material for generating output fields 211 to 220. When generating these fields, video data from the
15 progressive frames is effectively inserted into field positions, with a first field of data being identified by a similar letter to its originating frame while a second field of data is identified by a similar letter followed by a star. Thus, both the fields 211 and 212 are derived from frame 201 and the fields making up this frame are identified as A and A* respectively.

20 At the video tape recorder 104, each of the generated frames is allocated a timecode, such as codes 223 to 227. In their full form, these timecodes represent hours: minutes: seconds: frames but in the example shown only entries for seconds and frames have been included. In the majority of situations, timecodes would often include an off-set such that,
25 for example, the full timecode 223 may effectively start at the tenth hour and be fully represented as 10:00:00:01. Notionally, the originating progressive frames 201 to 209 also include timecodes, such as code 231

and in the system described subsequently, these codes are effectively reconstituted.

As illustrated in *Figure 2*, a first output frame with timecode 00:01 is derived exclusively from input frame 201 or, looking at this the other way round, frame 201 inserts two data fields into the output stream.

Input frame 202 is dealt with differently in that it inserts three output fields into the data stream consisting of field 213 and field 214, to make up output frame 00:02 while also making a contribution to output frame 00:03 by the insertion of data to field 215, this being the same data as inserted in field 213. Thus, on this occasion there has been a three field insertion.

Input frame 203 is processed differently again in that it provides a two field insertion but these are made to different output frames, consisting of a second field insertion to position 216 and a first field insertion to position 217. The cycle is completed by a further three field insertion derived from input frame 204 and consisting of the generation of output fields 218, 219 and 220.

In this example, the high definition input film has been scanned to produce high-definition output video data at thirty per frames per second. In alternative configurations, standard video data may be produced and when produced in accordance with NTSC recommendations, this may also include drop frame timecodes, accomplished by making some output timecodes illegal as is well known in the art. It is also known to produce high definition video signals with drop frame timecodes. Furthermore, having produced high-definition video signals this may also be further reconverted to standard definition broadcast video signals, possibly following different standard recommendations. Thus, a high-definition video source may be used to generate NTSC signals and PAL signals in addition to providing a source for

high-definition broadcasts.

Techniques for the manipulation and editing of digitised video data are well known and such a system is licensed by the present Assignee under the Trademark "INFERNO". This facilitates a significant degree of post production activity allowing video to be edited and allowing modifications to be made, such as the inclusion of graphics and more complex special effects. Thus, many situations arise in which, after digitisation into a digital video signal, there is a requirement for further editing and modification to be performed prior to a final video output tape being produced.

A video editing facility is installed in *Figure 3*. Digital video material is replayed from a standard digital video tape recorder 301, possibly similar to tape recorder 104 shown in *Figure 1*. Digital video images are supplied to a computer control and edit facility 302 over a digital video interface 303. The digital video tape recorder 301 is also controlled by the computer control and edit facility 302 via a serial RS422 control interface 304. In order for manipulations to be performed, the computer control and edit facility 302 is interfaced to a display monitor 305 and manual input devices 306.

A computer controlled editing station of the type illustrated in *Figure 3* is detailed in *Figure 4*, including a high definition video tape recorder 401. Video data at thirty frames per second, twenty-four frames per second or any other supported frame rate is written to and read from a plurality of randomly accessible discs 402 arranged in a redundant array. The system is built around a computer system 403 such as an Onyx II computer manufactured by Silicon Graphics Inc.

An operator controls applications performed on the processing system 403 by means of a stylus 404 applied to a touch tablet 405 in combination with the keyboard 406. Images and control menus are supplied to a high

5

definition visual display unit 407 and video images are also supplied to a broadcast quality monitor 408. Operating instructions accessible by the processing system 403 are received by means of a computer readable medium, such as CD-ROM 411 receivable within an appropriately configured CD-ROM player.

10

Operations performed by the computer-based system illustrated in Figure 3 and detailed in Figure 4 are identified in Figure 5. At step 501, an operator locates a frame reference with respect to a jitter frame. At step 502 data is captured at thirty frames per second with timecode (or with drop frame timecode), effectively in a first format. At step 503, the system converts the video data capture at step 502 to progressive data at twenty-four frames per second again with timecode and this may be considered as being in a second format.

15

At step 504 manipulations are performed on the reconverted data which may take the form of an edit or a re-composition. Edits would not generally increase or reduce the length of a particular clip but they would result in material being modified and thereby require this modified material to be written back to the digital tape recorder 301 at appropriate locations.

20

At step 505 the modified second format clip (ie 24P) is identified as the portion of the clip that is to be written back to the tape recorder. At step 506 this clip is converted again into the first format, ie the thirty frame per second jitter frame inserted format.

25

Steps 506 and 507 effectively take place in unison, with the system performing the 2:3 insertion process as the material is being written onto the tape, based on the reference A frame timecodes.

The video tape edit is performed at step 507 by the new data overwriting an appropriate portion of the original data such that the

modification is then included on the material held on the digital video tape, without requiring all of the material to be rescanned, reprocess and then rewritten to video tape.

5 Performing modifications upon the 24P data, converting this data to thirty frames per second inserted and then performing an edit to video tape is relatively straightforward if edits only occur at the boundaries between D and A frames, such as boundaries 251, 252 and 253 as shown in *Figure 2*. However, if edits are required at other frame boundaries, problems arise which, in previous systems generally resulted in the introduction of artefacts. 10 A problem occurs, for example, if an edit is to start at a boundary between an A frame and a B frame, say, and then finish at a boundary between a C frame and a D frame.

It is possible for a video tape recorder to be instructed such that edits occur on the first field of a frame or on the second field of a frame. When 15 edits occur on the first field, the cuts effectively take place along frame boundaries such that, for example, the frame made up of fields 211 and 212 of *Figure 2* would remain intact and edits could only occur on either side of these fields. Similarly, when edits occur on the second field, it would not be possible to put a break between fields 212 and 213, actually in different frames, although an edit could occur between fields 211 and 212 or between 20 fields 213 and 214, effectively breaking the notional frame in half.

When edits are specified by timecode, the code at the start of the edit is inclusive and that at the end of the edit is exclusive, therefore a set-in timecode represents a timecode of the first frame to be replaced and a set- 25 out timecode represents the timecode of the frame after the last frame to be replaced. In the editing system, edits are defined at boundaries of 24P frames, after which the system is configured to reconstitute the edit from 2:3

pull down inserted frames in such a way as to faithfully restore the edit in the first format stored on video tape.

An example of an edit is illustrated in *Figure 6*. A clip consists of a sequence of 24P frames 601, 602, 603, 604 etc to frame 605 having timecodes 03:12 to 05:09; hours and minutes not being shown in order to improve clarity. Following operations performed to find a reference "A" frame on tape, the frame types are known, with frame 601 being of type D, frame 602 being of type A, frame 603 being of type B, frame 604 being of type C etc, with frame 606 being of type C, frame 607 being of type D and frame 605 being of type A.

Manipulations have been performed on the computer system and from this it has been determined that the new material should be set-in from frame 03:14 and set-out at frame 05:07. In order to achieve an edit of this type without introducing artefacts, all material derived from frames 603, 604 and all the frames inbetween up until frame 606 is to be replaced, whereas material derived from frame 602 and earlier frames along with material from frame 607 and later frames is to be retained without modification.

24P frames 601 to 605 were generated from inserted frames 621 to 629 but frames 603 to 606 have been modified therefore similar modifications need to be made to appropriate frames/fields of the inserted video so that the appropriate portion of modified inserted video may be then written back to the tape recorder. Frame 622 at timecode 04:16 is derived from frame 602 at timecode 03:13 similarly, frame 623 is derived exclusively from frame 603. This facilitates an edit of the video material given that an edit cut may occur at the boundary between frame 622 and frame 623.

On the set-out side frame 606 has been modified and frame 607 has not been modified. Thus, material derived from frame 607 is to be retained

and not overwritten whereas material derived from frame 606 has been modified and is therefore to be overwritten on the tape. On this occasion however the cut does not occur at a frame boundary given that frame 627 is a jitter frame, having received an insertion from frame 606 with a complementary insertion from frame 607. A problem therefore exists in that the set-in edit, between frame 622 and 623 occurs on the first field with the set-out edit at frame 627 occurring on the second field.

The invention overcomes this problem of performing an edit upon video data of a first format in which the first format has inserted jitter frames and is displayable at a first frame rate. The original video data in the first format is read from a storage device, such as a video tape recorder. The video data is converted into converted video data having a second format with no jitter frames thus, having fewer frames removed, the second format is displayable at a second display rate. Preferably, the image data is written to randomly accessible storage and a timecode is allocated to both the first format frames and the second format frames. Having generated the second format data, this data is then available for modifications to be made such that a portion of the converted video data may be modified to produce modified video data in the second format.

However, this modified data cannot be written back to the video tape in its converted form. The generation of new data, ie back into its first format, is performed while data is being written back to the video tape recorder and the processing is effected in real-time. An edit portion on video tape is then replaced by the new data by performing an editing process. During this editing process an edit range is defined with reference to the new data. The tape recorder is responsive to field edit commands and as such an edit field is selected with reference to the frame type so as to initiate the edit on a data

boundary. With this data boundary selected, new data is written to the storage device ensuring that the cut point in the first format video is correct with reference to the specified cut point in the second format video. As shown in Figure 6, this does not in itself provide a total solution, given that the edit field at the end of the edit may be different from the edit field at the beginning of the edit. Consequently, while data is being written to the video tape, the edit field is selected again before completing the writing step, with reference to the frame type data so as to complete the edit on the data boundary.

Thus, by maintaining a mapping of timecodes related to an A-frame reference and thereafter calculating frame types, it is possible to determine what type of field edit is required at the set-in point and at the set-out point. Furthermore, if the field type between these two points differs, the field edit type is changed while the data is being transferred so as to ensure that the correct type of field edit occurs at the set-out point.

Step 507 for overwriting original data on video tape with the new data generated by the computer system is detailed in Figure 7.

At step 701 the new first format clip (inserted thirty frame per second video) is considered to identify a timecode for the start of the edit. At step 702, this timecode is compared with similar timecodes to the "A" frame reference timecode to determine a start frame type. Thus, referring to Figure 6, the timecode of frame 623 is identified that in turn corresponds to a start frame type of BB* thereby making frame 603 a "B" frame. This identifies the second format start frame type at step 702. Thus, at step 703, a determination is made as to what type of field edit is required. In this example, given that the edit starts on a B type frame, a first field edit type is required in order to effect the cut at the boundary between frames 622 and 623.

At step 704 a similar process is initiated for the end of the edit and a timecode is identified for the last first format type frame included in the edit. In the example shown in *Figure 6*, this occurs at frame 627 which is derived from frames 606 and 607. Thus, on this occasion, a timecode is identified as 06:06 at step 704.

At step 705 the frame type is identified as a C type, ie frame 606 whereafter at step 706 the field edit type is identified as requiring an edit on the second field. This is to ensure that the material from frame 606 is replaced while the material from frame 607 is retained. It should be noted that first format set-in timecodes on DD* frames are not possible since the D frame does not begin there. Also, set-out timecodes on BC* frames are not possible since no second format frames end on the preceding BB* frame.

At step 707 the video tape recorder is instructed to initiate the edit and at step 708 video data is transferred. At step 709 a question is asked as to whether the edit field type is correct, that is to say, whether the field type determined at step 706, for the end of the edit, is the same as the field type determined at step 703, for the beginning of the edit. If these field types differ, the question asked at step 709 is answered in the negative and the field type edit is changed at step 710. Thereafter at step 711 a further instruction is supplied to the tape recorder changing the field type edit so as to ensure that a correct type of edit occurs at the set-out point. Alternatively, if the question asked at step 709 is answered in the affirmative, no further action is required and control continues to step 508.

Step 703 for determining the field edit type at the start of the edit process, ie the set-in point, is detailed in *Figure 8*.

At step 801 a question is asked as to whether the edit starts on an A frame and if answered in the affirmative, a flag is set equal to one, to confirm

that the field edit is to take place on the first field. Alternatively, if the question asked at step 801 is answered in the negative, control is directed to step 803 at which a question is asked as to whether the edit starts on a B frame. Again, if answered in the affirmative, the flag is set equal to one, representing a condition to the effect that the edit is to take place on the first field.

Alternatively, if the question asked at step 803 is answered in the negative, control is directed to step 805 and under these conditions the edit will be initiated on a C frame or a D frame requiring the edit to be effected on the second frame resulting in the flag being set equal to zero. Thus, if the edit does not start on an A frame or does not start on a B frame the edit must be on a C or a D frame requiring the cut to take place on the second field.

Step 706, for determining the field edit type at the end of the edit, is detailed in *Figure 9*. At step 901, a question is asked as to whether the edit ends at the end of an A frame. If answered in the affirmative, control is directed to step 902 resulting in the field flag being set equal to one representing a condition to the effect that the edit takes place on the first field.

If the question asked at step 901 is answered in the negative, control is directed to step 903 where a question is asked as to whether the edit ends at the end of a D frame. Again, if answered in the affirmative, the field flag is set equal to one representing a condition to the effect that a first field edit is required. If the question asked at step 903 is answered in the negative, the edit must end on a B type frame or a C type frame under which conditions an edit is required on the second field resulting in the field flag being set equal to zero at step 905.

Step 707 of *Figure 7* generates instructions to the video tape recorder, over the serial interface 304, of the type illustrated in *Figure 10*. At line 1001

a set-in instruction is sent instructing the video recorder to initiate an edit from the frame defined by the timecode calculated at step 701. At line 1002 a set-out instruction is issued to the video tape recorder identifying a timecode for the end of the edit derived from the calculation performed at step 704.

5 At line 1003 edit tracks are identified usually in the form of a video track plus several audio tracks. The particular tracks under consideration are defined during the manipulation of the video data at step 504.

10 At line 1004 an instruction to "set the edit field" is issued derived from the determination made at step 703. Thus, line 1004 identifies whether the edit is to be performed on the first field (F1) or on the second field (F2).

15 At line 1005 the physical editing process is initiated by a command to cue to In pre-roll. This rewinds the tape recorder in accordance with established pre-roll techniques ensuring that the mechanism of the machine is fully in synchronism with the input video stream prior to the actual edit being initiated. This is then followed at line 1006 by the command to "auto edit".

20 As previously described, if the question asked at step 709 is answered in the negative, further action must be taken in order to ensure that the edit correctly terminates at the required field position. At step 710 the field edit flag is changed resulting in a further instruction being issued at step 711 as shown in *Figure 10*. This takes the form of a further command at line 1011 similar to the command issued at line 1004, taking the form "set edit field" but on this occasion effectively deriving the field edit data from step 706.

25 Thus, these procedures facilitate accurate insertions to be made during an editing process such that editors are not restricted when source material includes inserted jitter frames and field accurate edits can be accomplished without the introduction of any artefacts.

Claims

1. Apparatus for editing original video data of a first format, wherein said first format has inserted jitter frames and is displayed at a first frame rate, comprising

reading means configured to read original video data in said first format from a video storage device;

converting means for converting said video data read by said reading means into converted video data having a second format with no jitter frames, displayed at a second display rate;

relating means configured to relate timecode of said converted video data to timecode of said original data so as to identify frame types for said converted video data;

modifying means configured to modify a portion of said converted video data to produce modified video data in said second format;

generating means configured to generate new video data in said first format by processing said modified video data; and

edit processing means configured to replace an edit portion of stored original data with said new data by defining an edit range with reference to said new data, selecting an edit field with reference to said frame type so as to initiate said edit on a data boundary, write said new data to said storage device, and select an edit field again before completing said process of writing said new data with reference to said frame type data so as to complete the edit on a data boundary.

2. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first format has a display rate of twenty-five frames per second to thirty frames per second.

3. Apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said frames are generated by scanning cinematographic film.

5 4. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second format has a display rate of twenty-four frames per second.

10 5. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said frame type is identified by locating the position of jitter frames.

6. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said modifying means includes a display device and a manual input device.

15 7. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said edit processing means supplies control commands to said storage device.

8. Apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said storage device is a digital video tape recorder.

20 9. Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said edit processing means issues a set edit field command to said video tape recorder before starting an edit.

25 10. Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said edit processing means issues a set edit field command to said video tape recorder before completing an edit.

11. A method of editing original video data of a first format, wherein said first format has inserted jitter frames and is displayed at a first frame rate, comprising the steps of

5 reading original video data in said first format from a video storage device;

converting video data read at said reading step into converted video data having a second format with no jitter frames, displayed at a second display rate;

10 relating timecode of said converted video data to timecode of said original data so as to identify frame types for said converted video data;

modifying a portion of said converted video data to produce modified video data in said second format;

generating new video data in said first format by processing said modified video data; and

15 replacing an edit portion of said stored original data with said new data by performing an editing process, said editing process including the steps of:

defining an edit range with reference to said new data;

20 selecting an edit field with reference to said frame type so as to initiate said edit on a data boundary;

writing said new data to said storage device; and

selecting an edit field again before completing said writing step with reference to said frame type data so as to complete the edit on a data boundary.

25 12. A method according to claim 11, wherein said first format has a display rate of twenty-five frames per second to thirty frames per second.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein said frames are generated by scanning cinematographic film.

5 14. A method according to claim 1, wherein said second format has a display rate of twenty-four frames per second.

15. A method according to claim 11, wherein said frame type is identified by locating the position of jitter frames.

10 16. A method according to claim 11, wherein image frames are displayed by a display device and input instructions are received from a manual input device.

15 17. A method according to claim 11, wherein control commands are supplied to the storage device.

18. A method according to claim 17, wherein said storage device is a digital video tape recorder.

20 19. A method according to claim 18, wherein a set edit field command is issued to said video tape recorder before starting an edit.

20. A method according to claim 18, wherein a set edit field command is issued to said video tape recorder before completing an edit.

25 21. A computer-readable medium having computer-readable instructions executable by a computer such that, when executing said

instructions, a computer will perform the steps of

reading original video data in a first format from a video storage device;

5 converting video data read at said reading step into converted video data having a second format with no jitter frames, displayed at a second display rate;

relating timecode of said converted video data to timecode of said original data so as to identify frame types for said converted video data;

10 modifying a portion of said converted video data to produce modified video data in said second format;

generating new video data in said first format by processing said modified video data; and

replacing an edit portion of said stored original data with said new data by performing an editing process, said editing process including the steps of

15 defining an edit range with reference to said new data;

selecting an edit field with reference to said frame type so as to initiate said edit on a data boundary;

writing said new data to said storage device; and

20 selecting an edit field again before completing said writing step with reference to said frame type data so as to complete the edit on a data boundary.

22. A computer readable medium having computer readable instructions according to claim 21, such that when executing said instructions
25 a computer will also perform the step of supplying a set edit field command to a video tape recorder before starting an edit.

23. A computer-readable medium having computer-readable instructions according to claim 21, such that when executing said instructions a computer will also perform the step of issuing a set edit field command to a video tape recorder before completing an edit.

Abstract of the Disclosure

Original video data in a first format is edited. The first format video data has jitter frames (626) inserted therein and is displayed at a first frame rate. The original video data is read from a video tape recorder (301) in the first format and converted into a second format with no jitter frames, displayable at a second display rate. Timecode of the converted video data is related to timecode of the original video data so as to identify frame types for the converted video data. A portion (603-606) of the converted video data is modified to produce modified video data in the second format. New video data is generated in the first format by processing the modified video data. An edit processor is configured to replace an edit portion of the stored original data with the new data by defining an edit range with reference to the new data, selecting an edit field with reference to the frame type so as to initiate an edit on a data boundary. New data is written to the video tape recorder and an edit field is selected again before completing the writing process. In this way, video edits occur at positions that are consistent with data boundaries irrespective of the selected edit position.

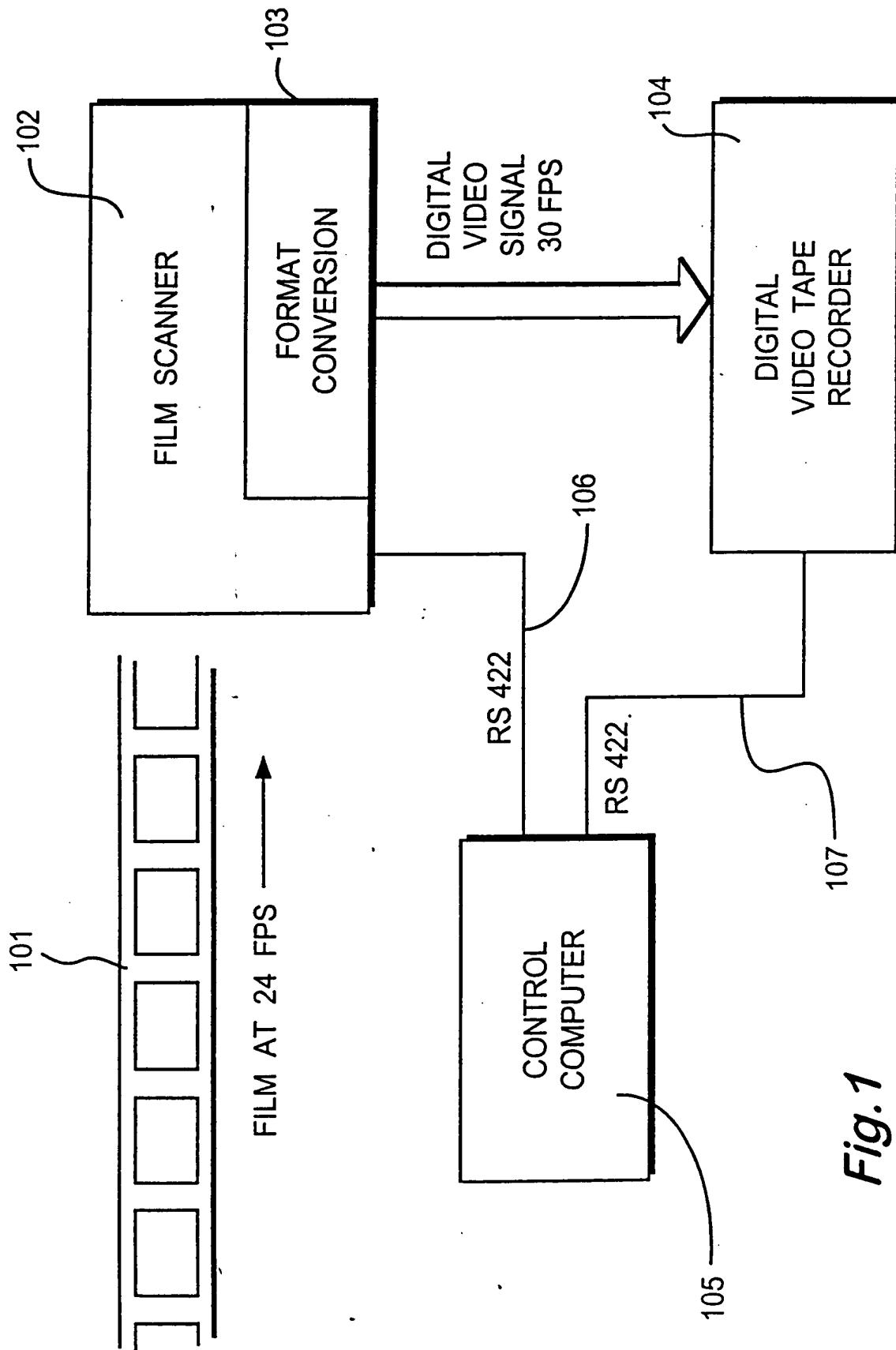


Fig. 1

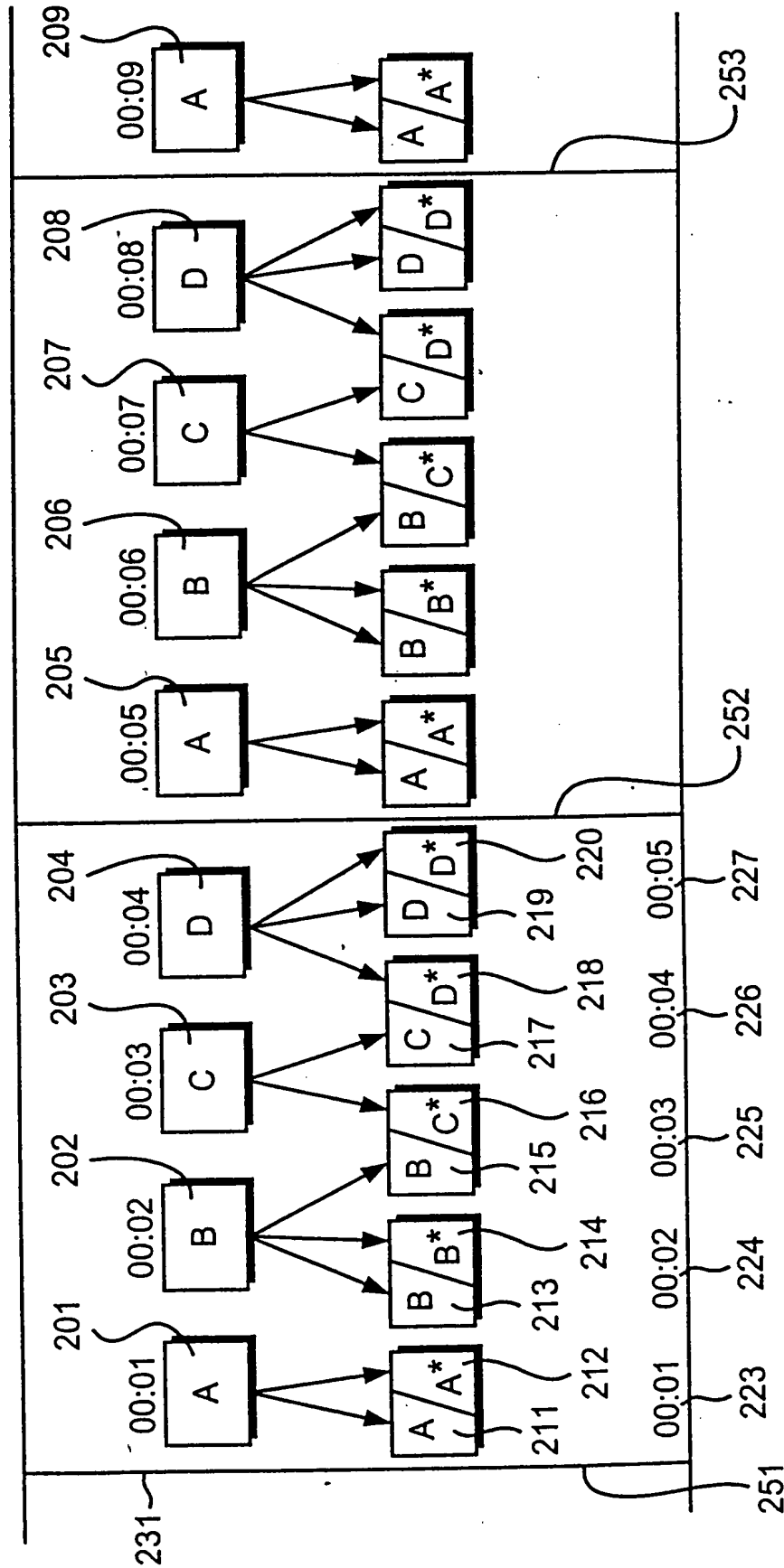


Fig.2

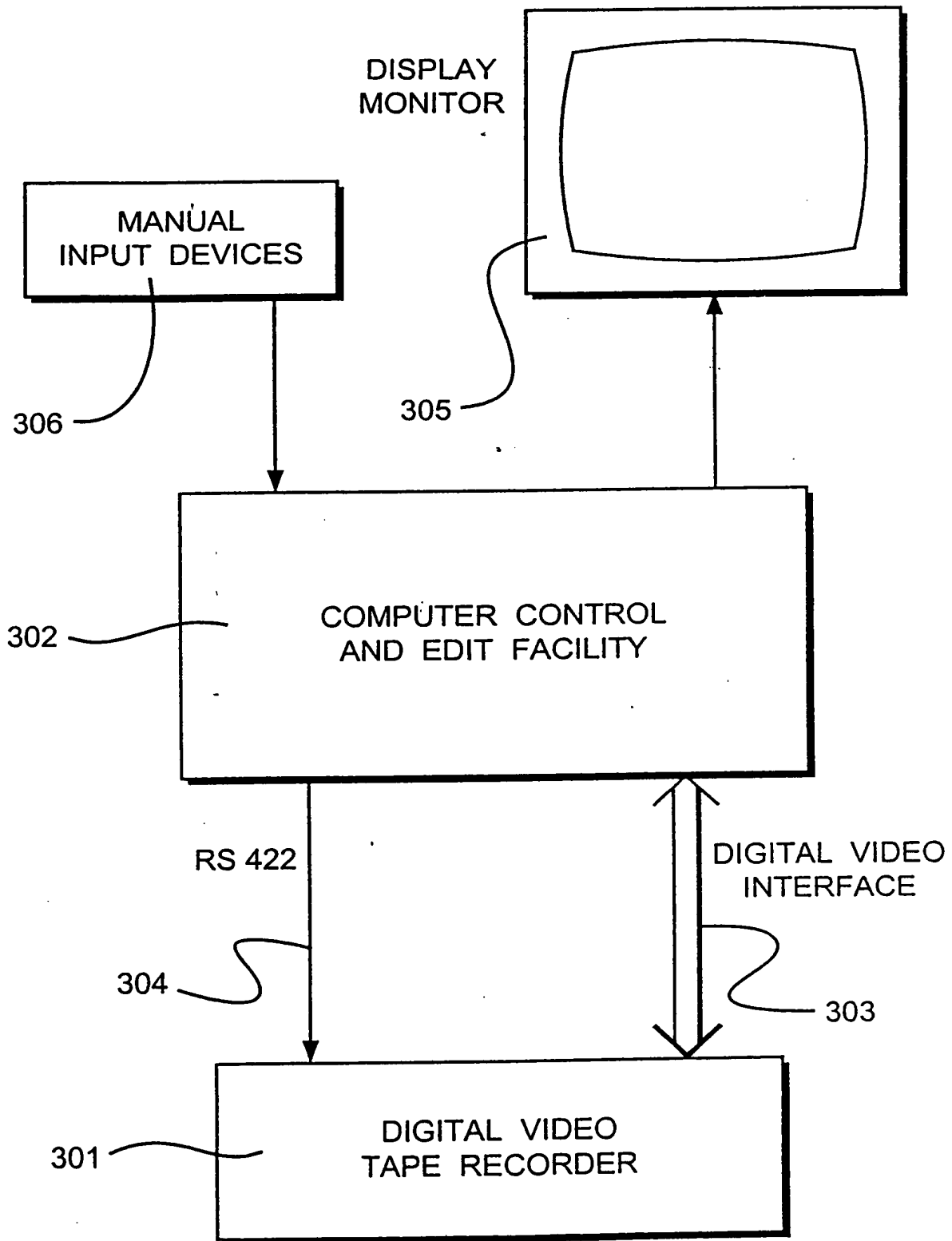


Fig.3

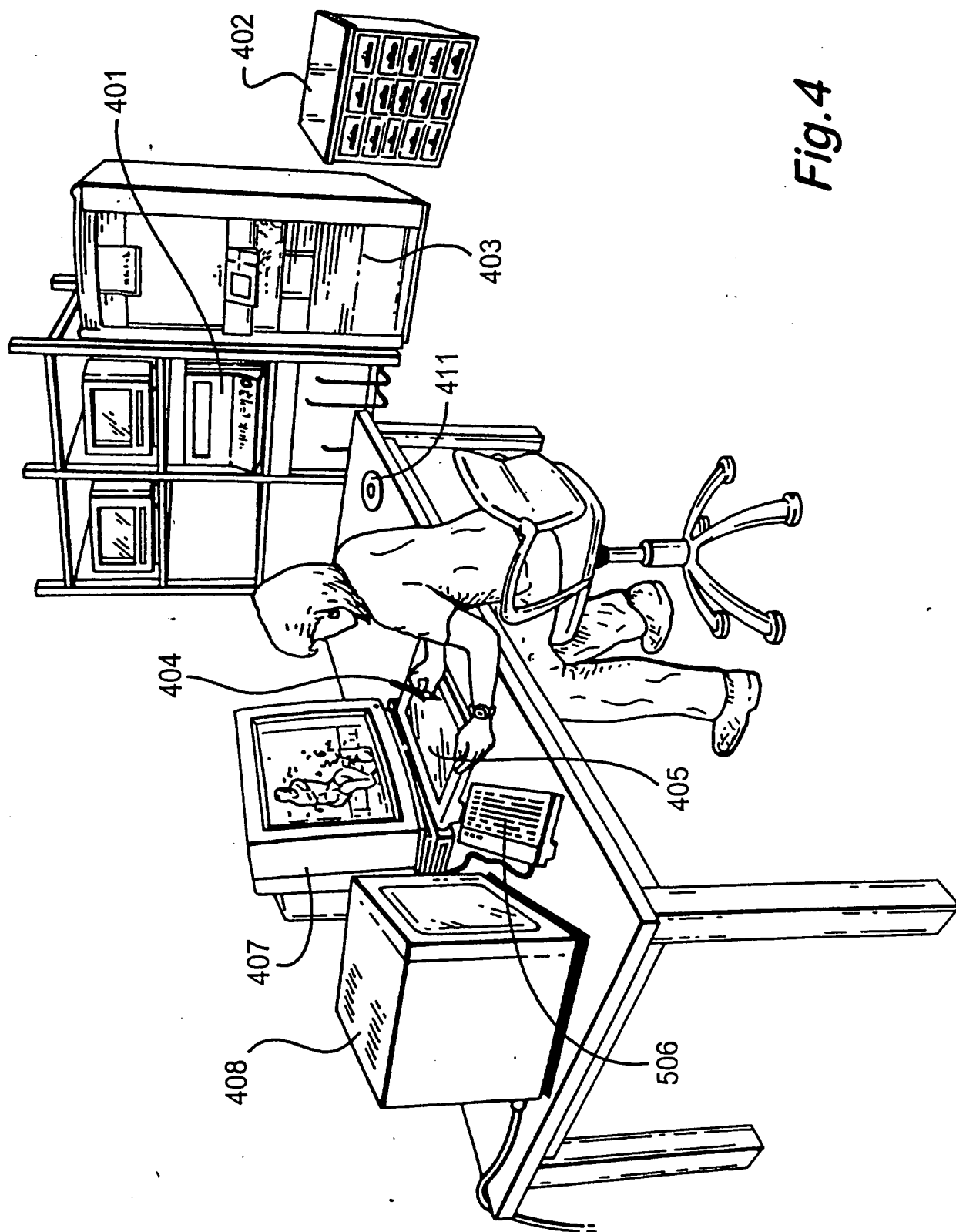
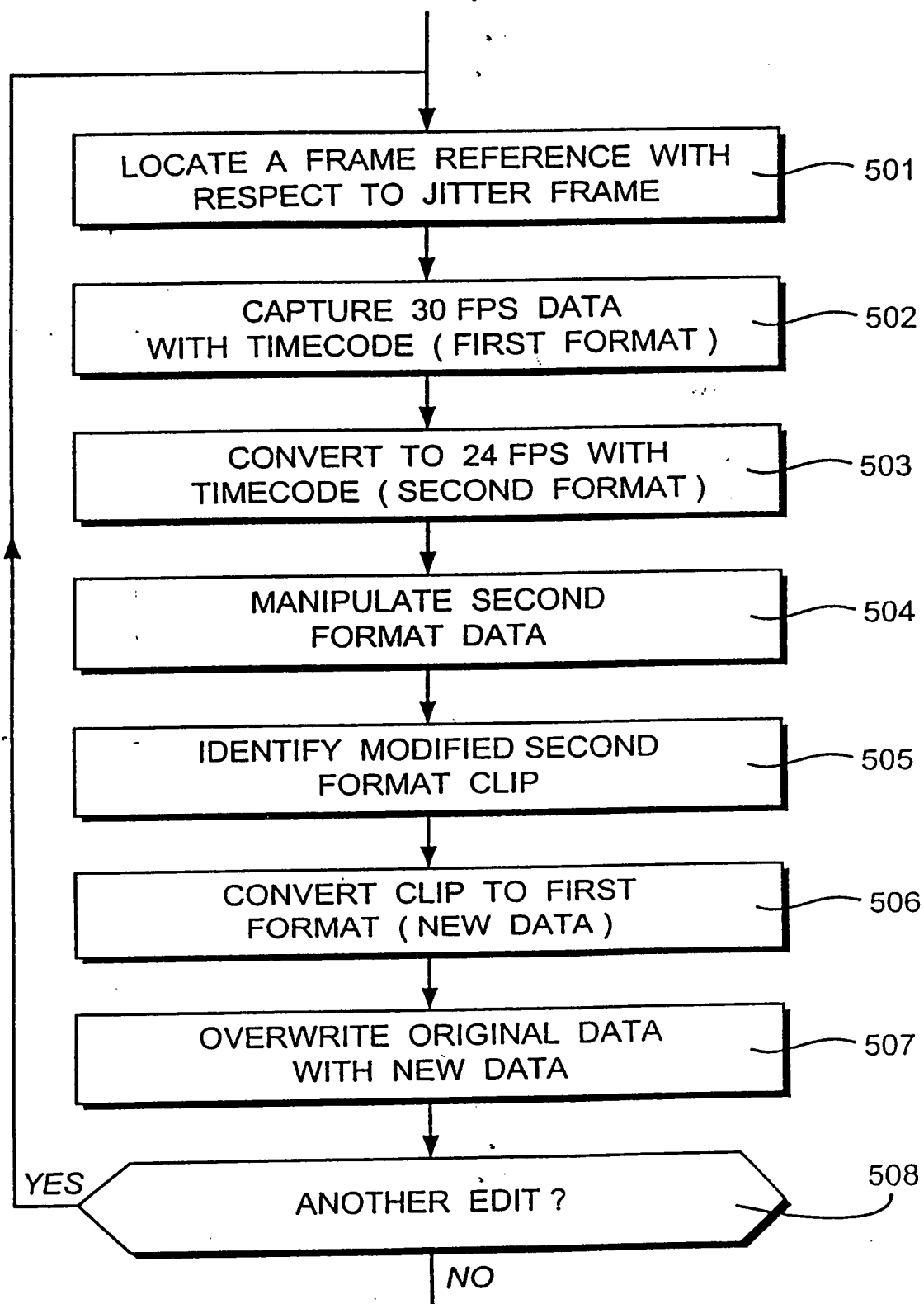


Fig. 4

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*Fig.5*

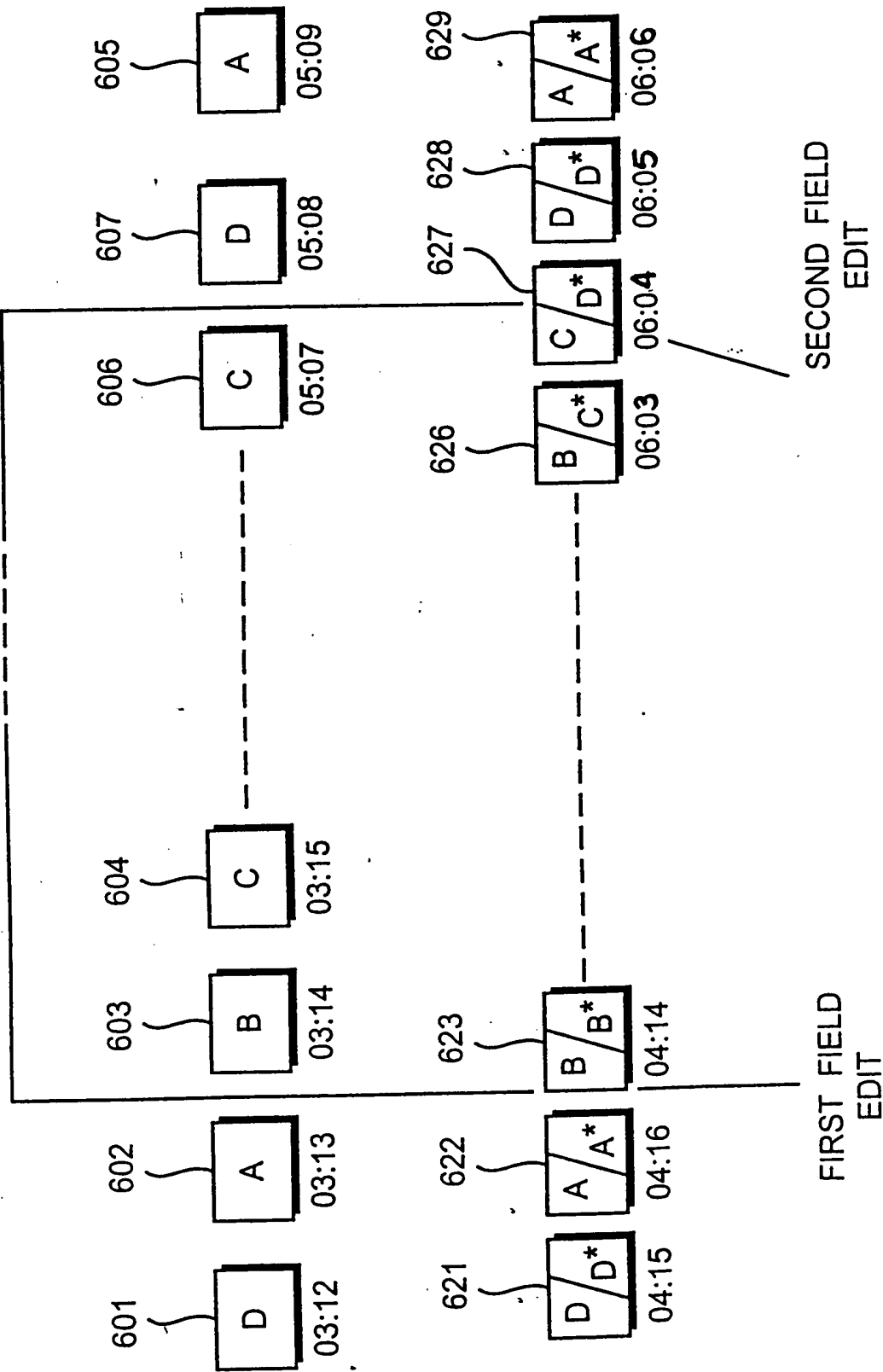


Fig.6

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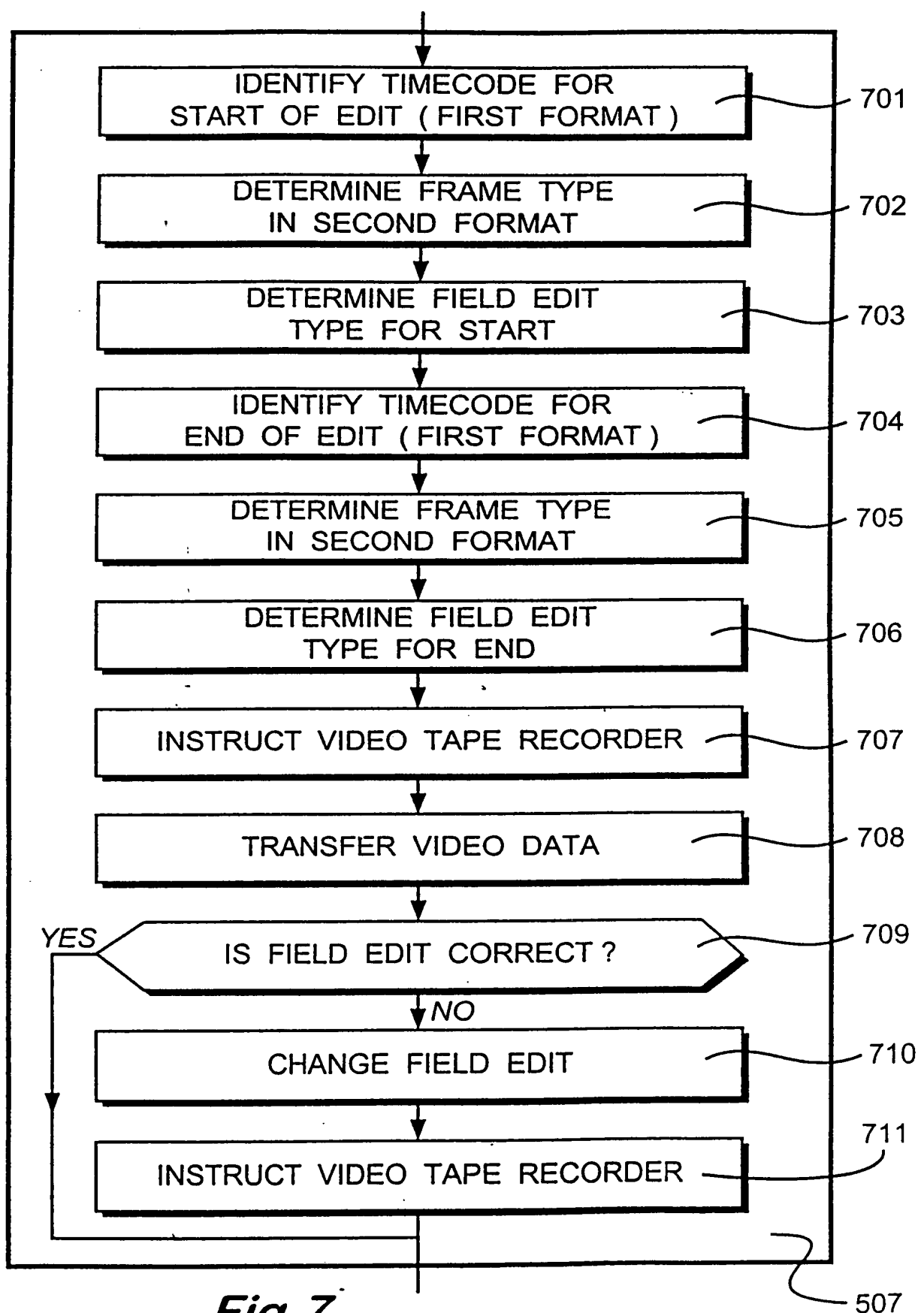
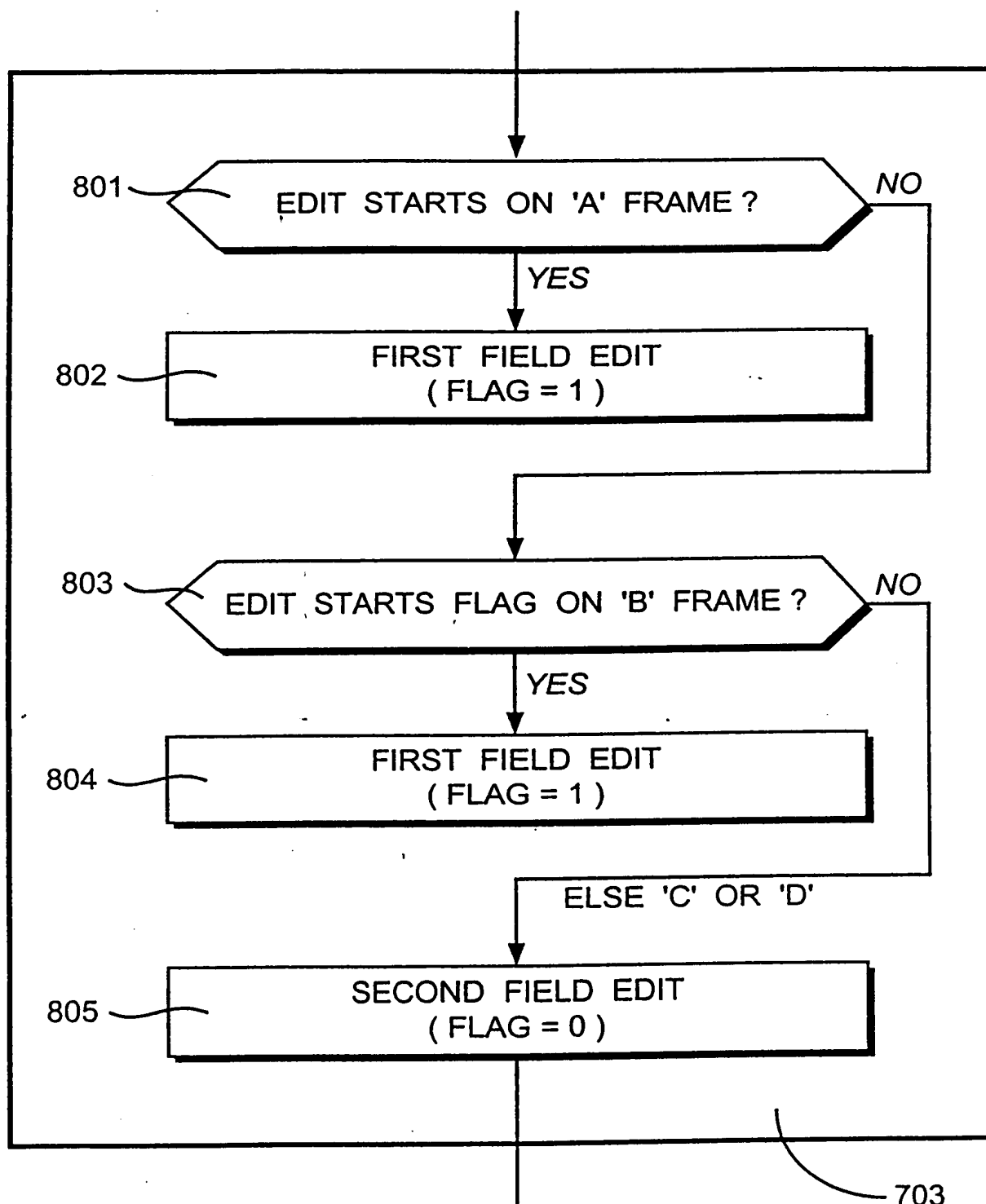
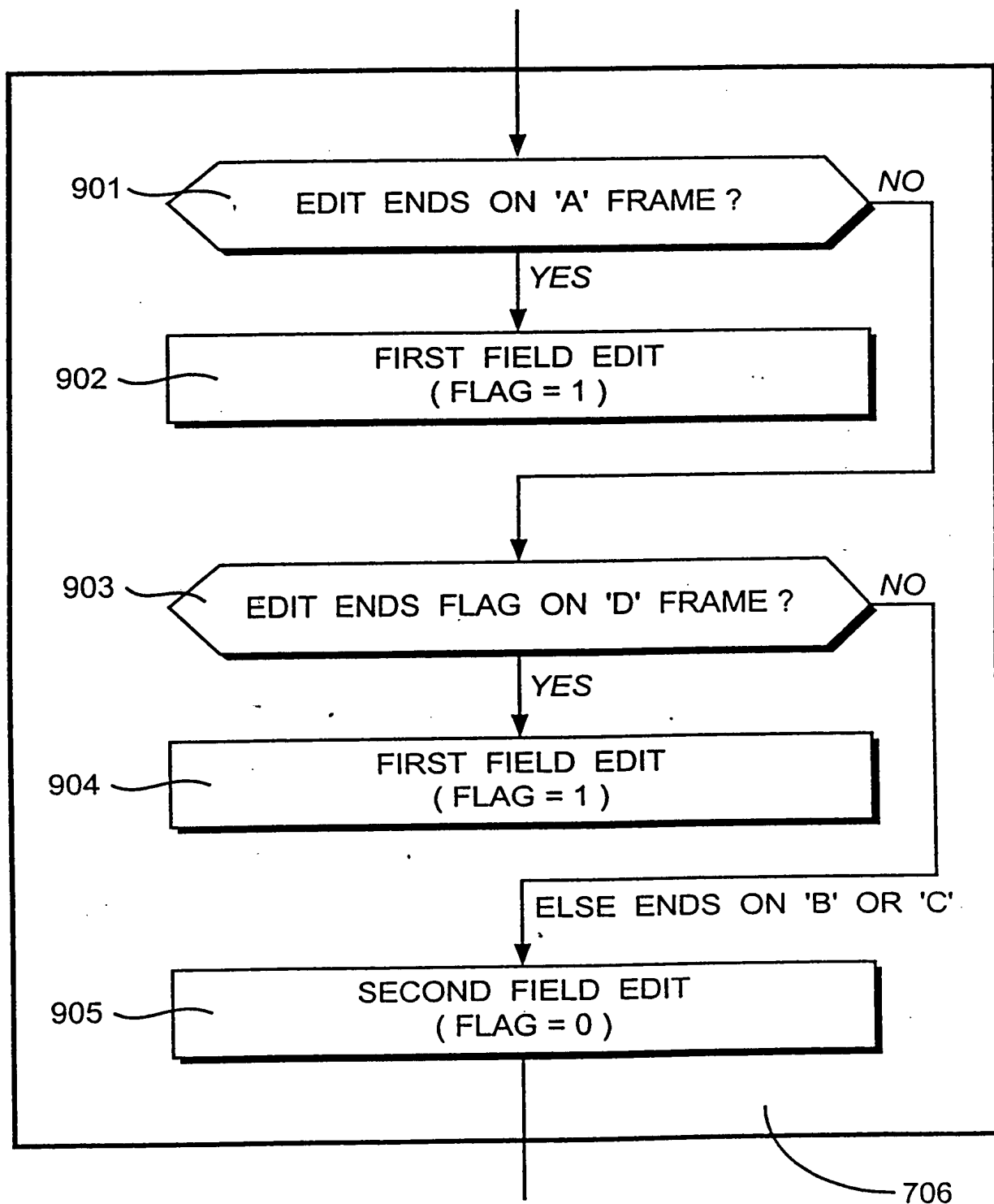


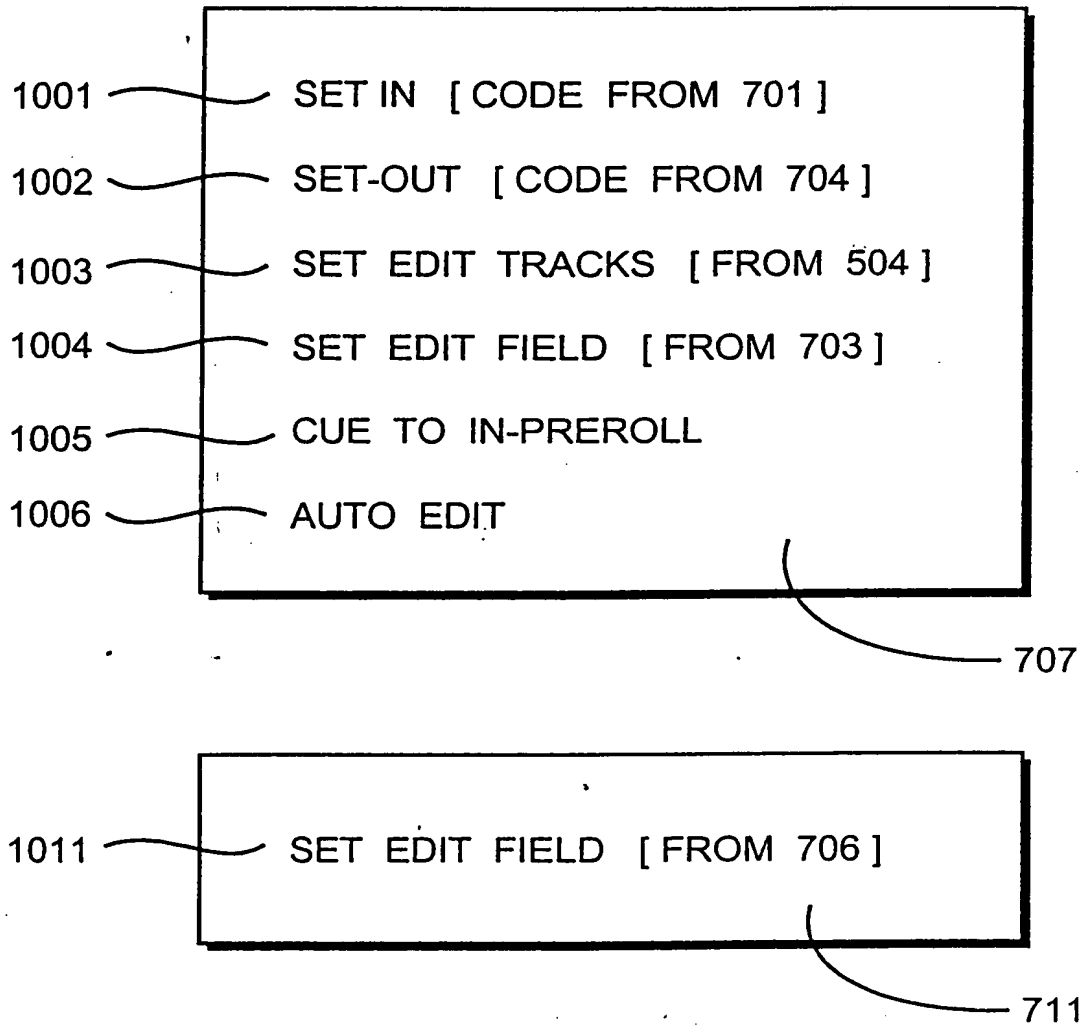
Fig. 7

*Fig.8*

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*Fig.9*

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**Fig. 10**

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